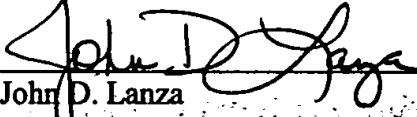## REMARKS

Claims 1-24 were pending in the instant application. After entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-24 remain pending in this case. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments are made to correct clerical errors made in the application as originally-filed.

If, in the Examiner's opinion, a telephonic interview would expedite the favorable prosecution of the present application, the undersigned attorney would welcome the opportunity to discuss any outstanding issues, and to work with the Examiner toward placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June _10_, 2002
Reg. No. 40,060

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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

14   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The server node of claim 12 wherein the application component comprises a member representative of an attribute of the application component alterable by a user or displayable to the user; and wherein the application-independent process further comprises an instance of management code, the management code instance mapping the correspondence between the application component member and a control object located on a client.

15.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The server node of claim 11 further comprising a container object for each application component.

16.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The server node of claim 11 wherein the application component comprises a member representative of an attribute of the application component alterable by a user or displayable to the user; and wherein the application-independent process further comprises a container object monitoring the application component member associated with that container object and initiating data transfer in response to a change of state of the associated application component member.

17.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The server node of claim 11 wherein the application component comprises a member representative of an attribute of the application component alterable by a user or displayable to the user; and wherein the server node further comprises a proxy layer referencing a unique identifier for the application component member.

18.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] A client node to enable the update of a user interface element of a user interface without direct interaction between an application program and the user interface, the client node comprising:

> a description file associated with the application program, the description file including one of (i) a layout description of the user interface element and (ii) a connection description associating a control object of the user interface with an application component of the application program; and

an application-independent process in communication with a server, the application-independent process accessing the description file, generating a control object associated with the application component based on the description file and updating the user interface in response to receiving data representing a detected change of state of the application component.

19.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The client node of claim 18 wherein the application-independent process is further configured to detect a change of state of the user interface and to transfer data to the application-independent server process in response to the detected change.

20.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The client node of claim 18 wherein the description file is in XML format.

21.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The client node of claim 18 wherein the application-independent process further comprises an instance of a control object for each of a plurality of user interface elements, the control object instance representing a corresponding user interface element.

22.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The client node of claim 18 further comprising a container object for the control object.

23.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The client node of claim 18 further comprising a container object monitoring the control object associated with the container object and initiating data transfer in response to a change of state of the associated control object.

24.   (Once amended) [(Amended)] The client node of claim 18 further comprising a proxy layer referencing a unique identifier for the control object.